

# FACES AND FLAMES



**SPECIAL 2014 "HOLIDAY" EDITION**



*Serving the Residents  
And  
Business Owners of the  
Town of Menasha*

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Encourage your friends and  
families to subscribe to  
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By sending an email request to  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

### **"Walk Like a Penguin"**



Walking on ice is extremely dangerous. Many cold-weather injuries result from falls on ice-covered sidewalks, steps, driveways, and porches. Walk like a penguin! Point your feet out slightly like a penguin. Spreading your feet out slightly while walking on ice increases your center of gravity.

Keep your steps and walkways as free of ice as possible using rock salt or another chemical de-icing compound. Sand may also be used on walkways to reduce the risk of slipping. In Wisconsin, we often experience "black ice," which is a term for a near-invisible layer of ice that can cover sidewalks and streets.

### **Choosing Appropriate Clothing**

- During bad weather, avoid boots or shoes with smooth soles and heels, such as plastic and leather soles. Instead, wear shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice; boots made of non-slip rubber or neoprene with grooved soles are best.
- Wear a heavy, bulky coat that will cushion you if you should fall.
- Wear a bright scarf or hat or reflective gear so drivers can see you.
- Keep warm, but make sure you can hear what's going on around you.
- During the day, wear sunglasses to help you see better and avoid hazards.
- Whatever you wear, make sure it doesn't block your vision or make it hard for you to hear traffic.

### **Indoor Safety**

Walking over a slippery floor can be just as dangerous as walking over ice! Keep these tips in mind if you are entering a building;

- Remove as much snow and water from your boots as you can. Water from melting ice on the floor can lead to slippery conditions.
- Notice that floors and stairs may be wet and slippery – walk carefully especially by outer doors.



**Fire Chief Keith Kiesow**



# Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- » Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- » Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- » Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- » Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- » Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- » Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- » Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- » Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- » Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- » Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- » Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- » Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Before Heading Out or to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- ❗ **Two of every five** home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ❗ **Nearly half** of holiday decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Town of Menasha Fire Department

1326 Cold Spring Road, Neenah, WI 54956  
(920) 720-1725

In an Emergency, Call 9-1-1

# Keep Your Children Safe Over the Holidays



Select toys to suit the age, abilities, skills and interest level of the intended child. Toys too advanced may pose safety hazards for younger children.

**A** Before buying a toy or allowing your child to play with a toy that he/she has received as a gift, read the instructions carefully.

**B** To prevent both burns and electrical shocks, do not give young children (under age 10) a toy that must be plugged into an electrical outlet. Instead, buy toys that are battery-operated.

**C** Young children can choke on small parts contained in toys or games. Government regulations specify that toys for children under age three cannot have parts less than 1¼" in diameter and 2¼" inches long.

**D** Children can have serious stomach problems – including death – after swallowing button batteries or magnets. In addition to toys, button batteries are often found in musical greeting cards, remote controls, hearing aids, and other small electronics. Keep button batteries away from young children. Call your health care provider immediately if your child swallows one.

**E** Children can choke or suffocate on uninflated or broken balloons; do not allow children under age 8 to play with them.

**F** Remove tags, strings, and ribbons from toys before giving them to young children.

**G** Watch for pull toys with strings that are more than 12 inches in length. They could be a strangulation hazard for babies.

**H** Parents should store toys in a designated location, such as on a shelf or in a toy chest, and keep older kids' toys away from young children.

## PREVENTING CHOKING

- Always follow all manufacturers' age recommendations when buying toys. Some toys have small parts that can cause choking.
- Never buy vending-machine toys for small children; these toys do not have to meet safety regulations and often contain small parts.
- Make sure small refrigerator magnets are out of your child's reach.
- Check toys frequently for loose or broken parts – for example, a stuffed animal's loose eye or a broken plastic hinge.
- Warn older kids not to leave loose game parts or toys with small pieces in easy reach of younger siblings.
- Safely dispose of all batteries, especially button-cell batteries (like those used for watches). Encourage kids not to put pencils, crayons, or erasers in their mouths when coloring or drawing.
- Put away all breakable objects and those that are small enough to fit in small mouths.





## Firefighters Decorate Fire Apparatus for the Holidays!

The fire department of Cottage Grove, WI decorated one of their trucks with Christmas lights and music.  
<http://www.neatorama.com/2010/12/03/fire-truck-decorated-with-christmas-lights-plays-music/>

Video features Christmas lights and music from the Little Creek fire station in Little Creek, Delaware.  
<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=620529844650090&set=vb.111066488929764&type=2&theater>

# Christmas Past



**D**uring the Depression years, it became a continued tradition for many fire departments to collect old and broken toys, and refurbish them for needy children as Christmas gifts. The firefighters started collecting the toys toward the end of summer, and worked on them on their days off – not while they were on duty. This picture from Fort Collins, Colorado was probably taken right before Christmas during the late 1920s or early 30s.



*The photo was taken by the creator of the sculpture, Darlene Racicot of Timmons, Ontario. The sculpture was made as a dedication to the firefighters and police who lost their lives in the 9/11 attacks. It was inspired by a photograph of a firefighter sitting, exhausted as this one does.*

*The photo was digitally altered to show two Angels, one leaning*

*on each side comforting the firefighter. The sculpture is 10ft tall, 15ft long, and took 250 hours to complete.*

*In the Fireman's hands is a connector assembly to a self-contained breathing apparatus. It is attached to a "backpack" with an air tank, and feeds regulated air to the face mask, which is hanging behind his left leg.*



# Candy Cane Fudge

This is simple, festive and tasty peppermint fudge!

Preparation time: 20 Minutes  
Chill Time: 2 Hours



## Ingredients

- 2 (10 ounce) Packages of Vanilla Baking Chips
- 1 (14 ounce) Can Sweetened Condensed Milk
- ½ Teaspoon Peppermint Extract
- 1 ½ Cups Crushed Candy Canes
- 1 Dash of Red or Green Food Coloring

## Directions

1. Line an 8 inch square pan with aluminum foil; grease the foil.
2. Combine the vanilla chips and sweetened condensed milk in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir frequently until almost melted. Remove from heat and continue to stir until smooth. When chips are completely melted, stir in the peppermint extract, food coloring, and candy canes.
3. Spread evenly in the bottom of the prepared pan. Chill for 2 hours; then cut into squares.



*In case of emergency, call 911.*

*Town of Menasha Fire Department  
1326 Cold Spring Road  
Neenah, WI 54956*

*Office Hours: 8 AM – 4:30 PM; Monday-Friday  
Telephone: (920) 720-7125*

*Fax: (920) 720-7986*

*Email: [TMFD@town-menasha.com](mailto:TMFD@town-menasha.com)*

*Website: [www.town-menasha.com](http://www.town-menasha.com)*

*Visit the Fire Department on Facebook!*



*Members of the  
Town of Menasha  
Fire Department  
would like to take  
this opportunity to  
wish everyone a safe  
and happy holiday  
season.*

*Merry Christmas &  
Happy New Year!*